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SOCER WORLD

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CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

FEW NSW CLUBS ITCHING FOR WAR

— By PAUL DEAN —

Let me predict, with considerable certainty, that the present cold-war between the ASF and the two rebellious States, NSW and Victoria will not engulf our soccer set-up in flames.

Despite some far-fetched accusations, even threats, sounded off in the accommodating daily press, the NSW Federation is highly unlikely to turn the issues into a public scandal.



Sir William Walkley

Clubs in NSW are far from unanimous in approving the action of their ASF delegates in the great walk-out scene or in the events that followed.

Many club officials feel that while the ASF is very far from being a perfect organisation, little would be achieved by destroying it.

Last week's special NSW Council meeting was significant in the things it did NOT do.

The Council did not endorse — or openly question as yet — the action and attitude of its delegates to the ASF meeting.

Also, it failed to express any opinion about the ASF's request to replace its delegates to the national body — a step normally to be expected from loyal subjects.

Next week the First Division clubs of Sydney will meet again to discuss the issues — and to hear the views of their former vice president, Tom Grimson, who recently resigned.

Meanwhile, at least as far as NSW is concerned, uneasy truce will reign.

NSW, probably out of necessity rather than choice, will have to adopt for the time being vice president Frank Parson's advice of "passive participation" in ASF matters.

He also advocated a "cooling off period" for all parties concerned though, somewhat pessimistically, he predicted that the present tension between the ASF and NSW may last for years.

We seriously doubt that, in fact, it's in everybody's interest to settle the dispute as soon as possible.

This can be achieved if, for once, the welfare of soccer takes priority over personal interests.

And once tempers did cool, we can perhaps seek

effective and intelligent ways of reforming the ASF — something this newspaper has been suggesting longer than anybody else involved in the present feud.



Jim Bayatti

Victoria wobbly

— By BOB LOW —

Leading Victorian soccer officials, sensing that the feud with the ASF is unsatisfactory in many ways to their own camp, are tight-lipped on the outcome until a meeting of the State League Management Committee and even perhaps until the forthcoming AGM of the Victorian Soccer Federation.

The fact that the NSW Federation may refuse to endorse the action of their Executives in regard to the "split" is likely to influence certain VSF club officials in their own decision.

It seems that the majority of the State League clubs could decide to explore several new avenues of thought to try and reach some acceptable compromise which would keep the ASF united.

Several officials whom I have spoken to on the feud and who refuse to be quoted officially at present are deeply concerned on many aspects of the suggested package deal between Victoria and NSW.

General feeling in Victorian soccer is that every endeavour must be made to heal the breach within the ASF or else a collision will be inevitable and could wreck the game completely.

It seems too, that the other States will have to show some goodwill in order to reach a compromise.

Loukanidis going home

Having tested almost unprecedented adulation by his fans, 33-year-old Takis Loukanidis is set to return to Athens within a few weeks.

His last Australian appearance may be against Hellas in Melbourne in a friendly if the match takes place at all.

While his displays in Sydney never quite reached Olympian heights, Loukanidis was a great asset to Pan Hellenic during his brief sojourn.

He also helped to boost the club's attendance figures to record levels.

According to an ASF rule, he will not be eligible to play in Greece until July 1969.

This rule was introduced to prevent clubs from importing players in their own country's close season.

However, Loukanidis is far from prostrate about all this; he has decided to retire anyway.

MEXICO '68

— From LOU GAUTIER —

MEXICO, Tuesday. — The spirit of peace and brotherhood, on which the Olympic movement is built, is sadly missing from this riot-torn city.

Even at this late stage nobody knows for sure whether the Olympic Games will start, as scheduled, on Saturday.

While the 16 soccer teams go through their last minute preparations,

RIOTOUS OLYMPICS

UNREST

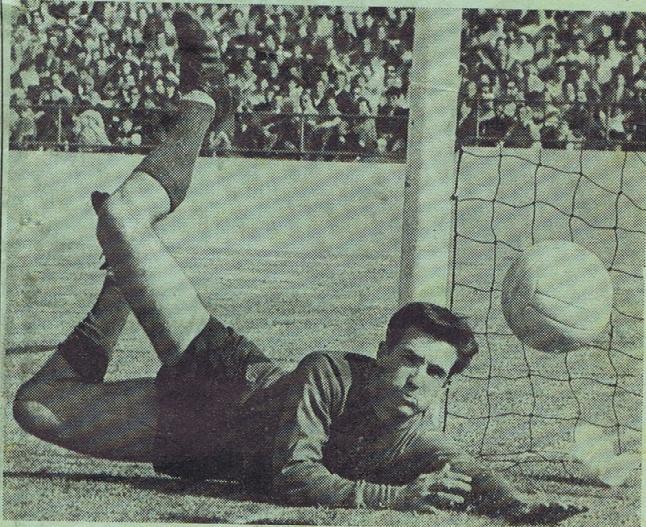
Neither the host nor the guests quite know

what the outcome of the publicity than now when unrest and reprisals will thousands of pressmen are here to report on the Games.

But as one colleague cracked at the Press Centre, "these will be the most riotous Olympics ever held — if they are held at all."

● Full previews on page 3.

Goalie's big day



Prague goalkeeper King, above, will be a busy man in Sunday's Australia Cup match in Sydney.

AUST. CUP BATTLES THIS WEEK

The two Sydney semifinalists will do battle this weekend for the Australia Cup.

Despite some rash statements, Hakoah should still win both "legs" and qualify for the final.

Prague, Sydney soccer's "status symbol" team, will play Melbourne Hakoah on Sunday in Sydney.

They did this after the W.A. Federation decided to guarantee a combined gate taking of \$5,000.

Although the Western Australian team is a surprisingly balanced one,

Hakoah should still win both "legs" and qualify for the final.

Prague, Sydney soccer's "status symbol" team, will play Melbourne Hakoah on Sunday in Sydney.

Although they missed out on the Sydney Grand Final by literally inches, Prague are generally rated as Sydney's most complete team.

However, they will need to do more than just play: Hakoah is certain to give them a tough battle.

Sydney fans once again will see a smooth, sweet-running team in Prague where skill and brain instead of strength and brawn characterise style.

After some tough encounters, we expect Hakoah (Sydney) to reach the final and Prague to face the second leg of their semifinal with a handy advantage.

WITH THE AMATEURS

SUTHERLAND TO BOUNCE AHEAD

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Sutherland Shire Council has made an offer of a large area of land to soccer interests in the Shire.

The land is located on Shell Point, right at the Taren Point Bridge, and exceeds 12 acres.

It could, over the years, be developed into a major stadium, plus ancillary fields, together with club premises, gymnasium and training quarters.

Such a complex would ensure the future of the game in the Shire for generations ahead, and with skilled planning it would overcome the factors that will otherwise inhibit growth.

As the code grows, Seymour Shaw Park is unlikely to cope, and the present club premises, although well located, do have some site limitations.

Acquisition or lease of the land would lead to a certain place for Sutherland in top soccer company in future years, and probably to the district becoming a big name throughout the Pacific and the East as well as in the Commonwealth.

Cronulla-Sutherland Rugby League has finalised their deal with the Council, and here is a chance for soccer that might never be repeated, although of course mature consideration is vital to the right final decision.

Co-operation between the Association, the Sutherland Shire Club, and the Social Club can result in the big project being undertaken, if the present administrative plans are repeated in the case of the ground arrangements.

At this stage all three bodies are advertising for a full-time secretary, with applications closing on October 25.

The secretary appointed will initially work for both the Shire football club and the Association.

With over 5,500 boys playing soccer in the Shire Association alone, secretary Bob Lightbody now has a superhuman task to handle the work in an honorary capacity.

The Soccer Club Limited will meet the secretary's salary, and has offered to make suitable office accommodation available.

Champion record

Association president Ken Chipman points with pride to the remarkable effort by Sutherland in this year's State Amateur Championships.

Sutherland won in under 8, 9, 10 and 11 year grades against State-wide competition.

Sutherland fields 75 teams of 5, 6 and 7 year-olds, and is one of the few

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SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

Australian team coach JOE VLASITS was attacked by a six-foot brown snake in high grass last week. One determined whack with a rake — and the snake was dead. It was only after that Vlasits discovered a cute little black snake escaping in a hurry from the site of the tragedy. This, so they tell me, is the peak of the snake mating season . . .

Neither president, EDDIE PROVERA, nor vice president, VIC CAPPELLETTI, has yet resigned from APIA. However, neither will seek re-election later this year.

Rounds are played in the normal fashion, but no points are awarded.

Team coaches are allowed on the field during the game to assist their young charges.

Chipman feels that these methods may well contribute towards Sutherland's junior success.

The youngsters are groomed gently and easily towards competitive matches, and the skills of the game are absorbed from the start without application of pressure.

The Association will welcome availability of nine new sports grounds in 1969, and should secure a big allocation of these to overcome the present shortages.

Shire's champion

The Shire's champion junior club this year was Cronulla.

398 teams were fielded in the District Association in 1968, with every indication of a big numerical rise again in 1969.

Sylvania won the A grade Div. 1, with Qantas as runner-up.

North Caringbah won Div. 2, followed by Gwawley Bay.

Georges River, undefeated with 99 goals for and 15 against, won Div. 3, Gwawley Bay again being runners-up.

Results in grades from under-16 to under 12 were:

U/16 Cronulla, runners-up North Caringbah.

U/15 Caringbah minor prem., Cronulla RSL premiers.

U/14 Caringbah Rangers.

U/13 Como West.

U/12A Caringbah Rangers minor prem., North Caringbah premiers.

Rangers also took out the KO Cup championship at Armidale in June.

U/12B Georges River.

U/12C Rovers.

U/12D Gymea minor prem., Sylvania premiers.

Amongst the guests at Sutherland's presentation last month were Federation officials J. Bayutti and F. Parsons, and Guy Foukes, president of the New Caledonian League.

Over 1,000 trophies were presented that night.

One gets the feeling that Sutherland is now gaining the confidence to be top liners in Federation football and in the juniors.

It requires little imagination to foresee that they can become one of Australia's biggest soccer clubs and districts combined, within the next five or ten years.

Associations which runs its nursery teams on a non-competitive basis.

HARRY RUTHERFORD'S wife and two children will arrive from Britain in about a month. Brother Willie is single.

JOHN WARREN, the St. George-Budapest skipper, now fulfilling in Third Division Stockport, may return to Sydney sooner than planned. Warren is disenchanted with life in Stockport where he plays in the second team for a take-home wages of £17-a-week — about \$36. His chief complaint is that apart from the two-hour training stint daily, he has nothing else to do.

In a bid to secure new players, Pan Hellenic will soon send president ANGELO MALLIOS to Greece and secretary ALEX GEORGIOS to Britain.

Croatia's talented second stopper, SLOAN, is going home to Ireland for good.

Thanks to the support of the Management Committee, Sydney Amateur secretary BRIAN EMERY was able to report that the Metropolitan Championships and KO competition brought an income of over \$1,000 to the Association. The Sydney Amateurs

NORMAN CONQUEST, 51, former Australian goalkeeper, died in Sydney last weekend. Our condolences to his widow and family.

FIJI TOUR WAS GREAT SUCCESS

Fiji finished its NSW tour last week in Sydney, winding up with four wins and two losses.

The wins were 5-0 v. Riverina, 4-3 v. Illawarra XI, 5-2 v. North West, and 3-1 v. NSW Amateurs.

Losses were 3-5 at Canberra in the opening match, and 1-5 against top Newcastle club Adamstown, before 2,750 spectators in an exciting match at Adams town Oval.

In New Zealand they won three, drew one and lost one and in New Caledonia they lost both games.

These were both against the full New Caledonia side, results being 3-5 and 1-2.

The Fijians have shown

a big improvement in ball skills since their 1962 tour, and benefited greatly from the strength of their native players.

Asala Masi and Kavaia Naborisi were particularly strong, with the ability to deal with the ball delicately and to crash home some superb shots.

Unquestionably their players are developing and will more than hold their own in football throughout the Pacific.

The last tour match saw them defeat the NSW Amateurs 3-1 under lights at Sydney Athletic Field.

They gradually mastered the opposition, and were clearly the better side.

Their highly efficient managers, Des Naidu and George Shankaran, said they felt that a visit to Fiji by the full NSW Amateur side would be welcomed by their Association.

Certainly each centre could handle the travelling cost for its player.

A semi-professional team would be too strong at this stage.

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— Keith Gilmour

will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, November 23.

ILLAWARRA ASSOCIATION is being invited to discuss the possibility of their entering the Sydney Inter-District competition for 1969. Illawarra championed most of the Country grades in 1968, but the extension of the cities of Wollongong and Sydney towards each other could result in a re-thinking of Illawarra's position.

In 1968, however, Illawarra carried out the biggest project in the encouragement of country junior football that the code has ever seen. Only Associations who enter in all three grades (under-14, 15 and 16) will be accepted for the 1969 competition.

JOHN THOMSON, NSW Executive member, has been elected Patron of the NSW Coaches Federation.

Summer training for all boys 16 to 19 in CROATIA will begin early November.

Manly coach DENIS ADRIGAN may, after all, stay with the club for another term, but only if secretary ALAN BUSH doesn't quit.

MELITA EAGLES will hold its presentation night at a ball next Saturday at the clubrooms in Addison Road, Marrickville. Best and Fairest players in first, second and third grades will be presented with trophies.

SOUTH COAST UNITED secretary TREVOR BIRCH says three young, talented British players are all set to join his club before Christmas. "They are Alston type players", Birch says.

GUILDFORD won promotion to the First Division Inter-Suburban League by beating Emmore 5-3 on a two-match aggregate. The second match last week was an ill-tempered affair, going to Guildford 4-1. Three goals and one Guildford player were ordered off by the referee.

Western Suburbs' leading light, GEORGE GIBSON, was surprisingly beaten for re-election as president and even missed out on a directorship. He spent five years with the club and was largely instrumental in getting Western where they are. His demise underlines Lenin's old saying: "The revolution devours its own children". The new president is ALBERT ANDERSON.

St. George-Budapest's Social Club will take a much more lively interest in soccer than in the past. They will, for a start, pay all the expenses and salaries involved in the club's new coach, FERENC ARAKOV who may arrive here from Mexico straight after the Olympics.

About 600 people attended LANE COVE UNITED's presentation night last Friday which was attended by Club Patrons Alderman S.J. Friedlander and Jack Wheeler. Most successful of the 21 teams was the under-12 Blues which, amongst other honors, won the Northern Suburbs segment of the competition. Another successful team was the under-7's who had only four goals scored against it in the whole season.

Manly-Warringah forward, GREG JONES, plans to get married next January.

Lane Cove United will hold its Annual General Meeting at the POTTERY GREEN clubrooms this Friday, October 11, at 8 p.m.

The post-mortem on MANLY-WARRINGAH's unsuccessful season is expected to be held at a committee meeting in about a fortnight. Everything is hoped to be straightened out so that plans for next season can be put in operation.

Newly promoted AUBURN has hired the Bankstown Police Boys' Club where gymnasium training will be held from early November until Christmas.

Well known referees HAROLD PARSONS and MALCOLM BUCHANAN are expected to travel with the Auburn team to Griffith on the weekend of October 19, where Auburn plays the champion Riverina side Yoogal.

Manly secretary, ALAN BUSH, was offered the vacant seat on the NSW Executive. However, Bush may decline.

PAUL VROYLKS, 20, son of Croatia coach Bill, is likely to leave Pan Hellenic. However, instead of joining father, son may turn up with Western Suburbs.

St. George-Budapest's Social Club will take a much more lively interest in soccer than in the past. They will, for a start, pay all the expenses and salaries involved in the club's new coach, FERENC ARAKOV who may arrive here from Mexico straight after the Olympics.

SOCCER SECRETARY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to administer the Soccer Secretariat within Sutherland Shire. The successful applicant will be expected to act as Secretary to and implement the policies of the Sutherland Shire Junior Soccer Association and the District Football Club.

Salaries and tenure of office by negotiation. Applications in writing by 25/10/68 to:

The Chairman,
Soccer Secretary Committee,
Sutherland Shire Soccer Club,
10 Miranda Road,
Miranda, N.S.W., 2228.

Australia Cup

PRAGUE MUST SNATCH GOOD LEAD AT HOME

— By PAUL DEAN —

After a near soccerless weekend, Sydney fans will see what may be a spectacular Australia Cup match on Sunday.

Prague will take on Melbourne Hakoah at Wentworth Park in the first leg of their semifinal.

Prague, while not winning any outstanding prizes in Sydney this year, have performed more than creditably with their limited resources.

Venglos, after two years of experimenting and hard work, finally created a team that plays football as though it enjoyed it.

The team's 4-2-4 formation is by far the most advanced in Sydney and, at least defensively, they play it to perfection.

In recent matches, after the injury of Blanco, Prague's hidden weaknesses became more apparent.

Scheinflug, without the aid of midfield nomad Blanco's continuous roaming and prompting, seemed too preoccupied to hold his young colleagues together.

Blanco is still out and

HAKOAH HOPE FOR SUCCESS

— From BOB LOW —

Hakoah Melbourne who are Prague's opponents in one of the Australia Cup semifinals and are by far the oldest established among the State League clubs, have to go back to pre-war days, 1938 to be precise, for their last major title win.

This was in the original First Division days before, in 1958, this set-up was replaced by the State League.

For the past two seasons Hakoah have set a blistering pace in the league.

In 1967 they went undefeated for the first seven games without conceding a single goal then crashed badly, never recovered and only managed to finish half-way up the ladder.

This year they again got off to a flying start, maintained their challenge for the championship and headed the table for some time until once again their bid petered out long before the final round.

The early optimism of their supporters was dimmed when they only managed to finish fourth by virtue of a better goal average than Lions.

Still, in the past three years when their league placings have been 4th, 6th and 4th again, this has been a vast improvement on preceding years when on one occasion they only managed to avert relegation by the skin of their teeth.

As "pot hunters" Hakoah's only major success in the State League era was their 1966 Dockey Cup win over Slavia in the final.

They are still looking for the first Ampol Cup success although they did reach the final in 1965 only to be decisively beaten by George Cross.

Up to the semifinal of the Australia Cup, Hakoah had to struggle despite their undoubted superiority over Launceston United in Melbourne.

In the next round they had much less trouble disposing of the cup-holders, Melbourne, and won easily by 4-2.

In view of their sagging league performances their quarter-final 2-0 win over State League champions, Croatia, was not only a surprise but also commendable.

• Team details page 7.

that is a serious blow to Prague.

However, their fortune and fate will be decided in their forward line which in recent weeks has also suffered some lapses.

Young Wilcox is still very raw and fits in well only when the others fire on all cylinders.

Manuel and Hoggart are two potential match winners — but only when the polished Gauto clicks and the through-balls reach the strikers.

I wonder whether the two-week spell from hard matches will aid or hamper Prague's chances.

Unless they have lost form completely, I expect them to register a win good enough for the second leg in Melbourne.

LIKELY TEAMS:

HAKOAH (Melb.) v. PRAGUE (Sydney)

HENDERSON	1. KING
KEITH	2. HARCOMBE
O'NEILL	3. TRACEY
MURNEY	4. LISSING
VAN ALPHEN	5. ZEMAN
STENHOUSE	6. BLACKER
FRY	7. GAUTO
ARMSTRONG	8. WILCOX
CAMERON	9. SCHEINFLUG
SMITH	10. MANUEL
THOMAS	11. HOGGART

Reserves:
ARMYTAGE,
EARL.

Referee: V. Dobinson (Qld.)

CAN AZZURRI STOP HAKOAH'S GREAT RUN?

— From ALAN NEWMAN in Perth —

Azzurri are the undisputed champions of WA soccer — their record speaks for itself.

What's more, they'll have a very special incentive for wanting to add Sydney Hakoah to their list of scalps in this year's Australia Cup.

This is Azzurri's 20th anniversary since their formation in 1948 and the club is flat out to make it a season to remember.

Already Azzurri have won this year's Ampol Cup and the State League premiership (for the second year running).

They won the State League title by three points from Kiev, winning 13 of their 18 games, drawing four and losing one.

In 20 years Azzurri have won five First Division (in Association days) or State League premierships and 11 major winter Cup competitions.

This year Azzurri provided six members of the WA Merdeka Cup squad — forwards Peter Holt, Johnny van Oosten, Nino Segon and Jim McIntosh, and defenders Alan Lind, an under-23 international in New Caledonia last year, and Vlada Knezevich.

TEAM PORTRAIT

MILANO MILANOVICH: Goalkeeper. Very experienced, has sure hands and unlimited courage. Didn't make the

State team because of an alleged weakness against ground shots. Don't believe it.

V LADA KNEZEVICH: Full-back. Former Yugoslav player. Workmanlike and solid without often rising to great heights. But a very good team man in a crisis.

ALAN LIND: Full-back. Represented Australia's under-23 side in Noumea in 1961. Tall, high-flying centre-forward who topped the league scoring list with 29 goals this season — including seven in one match (a local record). Very fast and shoots accurately.

HUGH MILLER: Scottish left-winger who can be very dangerous on his day. Prefers to play along the touchline and cut the ball back to his strikers.

JIM MCINTOSH: Another star in Malaysia. Can be used in attack or in midfield. Has a tremendous long-range shot. Has a flair for doing the unexpected.

HAKOAH TO WIN

— By PAUL DEAN —

Sydney Hakoah go to Perth in their Australia Cup quest with everything to lose but also a lot to gain.

As Sydney's top team of 1968, they are keen to transmute the current interstate feud into a resounding victory on the field.

Hakoah, on most days, click as a solid, semi-professional unit which is fit, fast and highly combinative.

Just when their expensive forward line started to show genetic weaknesses, Hakoah gained, somewhat unexpectedly, two absolute match-winners in the Rutherford brothers who now make up their right flank.

If you add to that they also have in Watkiss, Baartz and Jones three outstanding representative strikers, their forward line must look more formidable than anything Azzurri's Merdeka heroes encountered in Kuala Lumpur.

Hakoah will play the first match on Friday night and the second one on Sunday afternoon; the aggregate result of the two ties will determine the winners.

While not selling Azzurri short, it's impossible not to expect Hakoah to clinch a place in the Australia Cup final.

LIKELY TEAMS:

AZZURRI (Perth) v. HAKOAH (Sydney)

MILANOVICH	1. FUZES
LIND	2. FEKETE
KNEZEVICH	3. HILLSDON
MAROCHI	4. WALSH
REID	5. MARNOCHE
McINTOSH	6. YAAGER
HOLT	7. H. RUTHERFORD
HOBSON	8. W. RUTHERFORD
SEGON	9. WATKISS
VAN OOSTEN	10. BAARTZ
MILLER	11. JONES

Reserves:
RIBERI,
GILICH,

Referee: M. O'Malley (S.A.)

LONDON LETTER

LEEDS SUCCEED AT LONG LAST

— From LESLIE PAGE in London —

To say that English soccermen from the Football League are now thoroughly caught-up in a complexity of competitions, is an understatement of considerable proportions.

Since it has now been proved, beyond doubt, that British clubs can succeed in Europe, there is a sudden feeling our soccer has taken on a new lease of life.

If the revival was sparked off by England's World Cup win in 1966, the League clubs have capitalised upon the air of enthusiasm and catalysed their strength of purpose.

The way to European glory was first trodden by Tottenham Hotspurs and later, West Ham United, in the Cup Winners' Cup.

Not until the Celtic win in the European Cup last year did British outfits really believe in themselves.

Scottish football may long wish to dwell upon the triumph of the Glasgow side, but Manchester United quickly followed in Celtic's footsteps, later to become embroiled in the unofficial World Club Championship against Estudiantes from the Argentine.

One European "pot", therefore, remained for the English clubs, the Inter Cities Fair Cup.

As with the previous season, the two-legged final of the 1967-68 campaign remained unplayed until September.

Leeds United, who had come so near and yet so far, in the last few years, finally captured the trophy when they defeated Ferencvaros by 1-0 after 180 minutes of football home and away.

As the score indicates, both matches fell into the category of the "dour struggle" and, yet, it is not surprising for Leeds United engaged in 35 Fairs' Cup matches in three seasons before success crowned their efforts.

A single goal, scored at Elland Road, was sufficient to bring Don Revie's side their first European Final victory.

Leeds United had, at last, discovered the manner in which such competitions are played.

For those who care little for defensive football, encounters of this kind present something of a problem.

Goals are greatly demanded by the average fan and it requires a considerable understanding of tactics to follow a battle often relying on the breakaway for goals with the majority of the play confined to the depth of the deepest kind.

Nevertheless, the Fairs' Cup rests in the Elland Road board room for the next year, alongside the League Cup which the club won in March of this year by beating Arsenal at Wembley.

That win brought the club its first major trophy in 63 years existence.

As Leeds reached the semifinal stage of the FA Cup for the second season in succession and finished in fourth place in Division One, the '67-'68 campaign was the club's best ever.

While not selling Azzurri short, it's impossible not to expect Hakoah to clinch a place in the Australia Cup final.

It's not selling Azzurri short, it's impossible not to expect Hakoah to clinch a place in the Australia Cup final.

Hateley, at one time linked to the great, Tommy Lawton, is still a great header of the ball, but something less than perfection when the ball is on the ground.

Review of Sydney teams '68

From rags to riches in reverse, that was the unhappy saga of St. George-Budapest, the 1967 Grand Final winners, this year.

Never has a club in Federation history experienced so sudden a decline in such a short space of time.

A second last place, the least number of goals scored, and the prospect that relegation, however incredible it may seem, was avoided only by "courtesy" of Manly — this was Saints' lot in 1968 — a year they will want to forget in a hurry.

There was certainly nothing at the start of the season to even remotely suggest the nightmare that was to follow.

If anything, it was felt in most quarters that 1968 would bring really as much satisfaction as 1967 — the club's best year ever — what with their social club well established and almost the same playing staff.

In view of the disastrous developments of 1968 one rather suspects, however, that St. George's sudden riches from their social

club made them more cautious than daring or imaginative, especially in their team-building.

How can you explain the puzzling, illogical decision to re-sign Galambois and Schauerman?

Neither player had anything to offer, yet were immediately acquired when they offered their services, for sentimental reasons, one suspects.

HARMFUL

The social club, the cornerstone on which St. George intend to flourish, actually harmed the playing aspect of the soccer side in the instance of John Warren.

By appointing the Australian skipper as a full-time P.R. man for the club, too much was placed on his shoulders.

Warren conscientiously devoted most, if not all, of his time to get the social

Saints' heavy fall stunned their camp

— By LOU GAUTIER —

side of the club functioning.

This he achieved splendidly, justifying the confidence placed in him, but in the process his game suffered and the nervous tension and pre-occupation caught up with him, affecting his form — and that of the whole team as well.

As things turned out in 1968, perhaps winning the 1967 Grand Final wasn't such a good thing after all.

The Grand Final victory may have had an unreal effect on all concerned, clouding the judgment of the management.

St. George tackled the new season too complacently, with an "I'm alright, Jack" attitude stemming from their record of the previous year.

But what they forgot was that in 1967, for all their achievements, the team wasn't all that hot.

It was a workmanlike side, with few weaknesses, but no stamp of greatness attached to it.

It wasn't even in the APIA class despite the Grand Final triumph which was just one of these unforgettable, unique occasions when everything goes right for a team on a given day.

Thus Saints committed the mortal sin of basing their optimism and predictions for 1968 on one memorable, but highly misleading match.

They paid the penalty for that illusion this year and weren't helped any by changing coaches midway through the season.

Changing horses in mid-stream has never been a profitable occupation, and Saints were no exception.

Coach Polgar, despite his capability, was unable to extricate them from the mess they'd gotten into. The team was too far gone for that!

DEPRESSING

All those happenings go a long way towards explaining Saints' spectacular demise, a demise which the pre-season Ampol Cup couldn't have foretold.

No amount of team reshuffling in the championship, and St. George used a near record of 33 players this season in a bid to find the "ideal" XI, produced any results.



COLIN WALLER

Though Warren's enforced absence in the first seven rounds unquestionably disrupted the team, this wasn't valid enough a reason to explain their shocking displays.

It would be nearer to the truth to suggest that the static, if not downright sliding, form of most of the key elements in the team contributed to their downfalls.

PERFORMANCES

While teams like Hakka, South Coast, Pan Hellenic and Polonia showed a marked improvement on 1967 this year, St. George didn't budge an inch and they lost many matches they would have won narrowly last year.

This is how their players performed in 1968:

Haffey had a "so so" season, but never really had a catastrophic match, which explains why young Hopkins didn't get a chance to establish himself as Saints' number one keeper.

In defense, Hillary had the No. 3 jersey to himself, and deserved it because he was probably the most consistent player in the team, certainly the one who played the nearest to his 1967 form.

Stegbauer was dispossessed of the right back position, played mainly in the seconds on his return from Austria, his place being filled early by Wills, who fell out of grace when the club secured George Nutall — their best acquisition this year, though he didn't cost a penny.

Schaefer was not as prominent as in 1967, but improved after a mediocre start before being sidelined through injury in the last few games.

Morgan, the strapping young stopper, did not impress and showed little or no improvement despite gaining "B" international status, and may have lost the number one centre-half spot to the very talented Cox, the most promising of the St. George youngsters.

Zuckerman slowed down noticeably this year, and as a result the whole team suffered.

In attack, the Warren-Ciass-Fernandez trio, which carried Saints' hopes, floundered.

Ciass, despite his nine goals, was never the force he was in 1967.

Obviously unfit, he faded after a fairly good debut to the season.

MYSTERY

Warren, as pointed out already, was a special case this year and can't be held too much responsible for his or the club's fate.

As for Fernandez, he alternated the brilliant with the mediocre as always.

Why Saints persisted with some mediocre youngsters as more or less permanent members of their first team attack remains a mystery.

If it was the club's policy to inject some youth into their jaded team, it would

have been better to try out in turn some third graders, who probably wouldn't have done worse.

Late in the season the Argentinian duo of Pebulas and Sanguinetti showed glimpses of talent in their fleeting first team appearances which suggests they could be as useful as Rodriguez or Isaac once they are acclimated.



ROGER HILLARY

Of the English trio which joined St. George in July, halfback Kane looks the goods, yet, strangely, wasn't persevered with by coach Polgar despite a couple of promising outings.

It's impossible to form a definite opinion on McCallig or Nowakowski because Polgar stubbornly refused to call on them and gave them little chance to show how good they really are.

Saints' pathetic season, just when they are about to break through big in their area was a big set-back.

Their club is booming, despite the team's mediocre results on the field of play, and they really have secured a foothold in the St. George area as their increased attendances at Hurstville Oval this year have shown.

Despite the season's heartbreaking, St. George may be optimistic about the future, if only because things in 1969 cannot get any worse.

Having committed more than their share of blunders this year, St. George will be ideal territory for new coach F. Arok because any improvement he can wreak out is bound to be hailed as a success in view of this year's disastrous record.

If the painful lessons of 1968 have been learnt, we should see a convalescent St. George in 1969 though it may take more than 12 months for the mess they got themselves into to be sorted out.

Aiming for business?



Manly's fate was sad but not tragic

Manly may not have won many matches in their short-lived attempt at First Division status, but this was largely outweighed by the many new friends the seafiders gained this year.

Though relegation was this young outfit's lot in the senior Federation Second Division.

The gap in standards in so brief a space of time proved fatal, but certainly not tragic.

The Manly management is fully aware of this, and consequently they aren't making a drama of their relegation, however painful it may be.

They are even, perhaps, too casual in an age where sport is a serious business which leaves little room for the dilettante.

ALL-AMATEUR

Rightly or wrongly, they stuck to their all-amateur principles in the face of all sorts of pressure.

I think, however, that they may have erred — and most of their officials now realise it — by not securing at least a couple of experienced campaigners.

A Reynolds, a Hughes or a Duffy — all of whom were available at one stage — could have worked wonders and transformed the team.

A couple of seasoned pros all Manly required to have a big show of avoiding relegation.

The absence of such a player spelt the difference between survival and relegation.

I don't think the acquisition of such a player would have caused the friction among his amateur teammates the Manly management feared because his value to the team would have outweighed any other consideration.

The absence of a play-maker and, to a lesser degree, of a striker, proved fatal in the final analysis.

Manly, however, were not quite without talented players.

Goalie Tuinman, as a custodian always will in a struggling team mostly on the defensive, had ample opportunity to show that he possesses potential far above average.

Stopper Campbell was another Manly stalwart, if one can use the term in connection with someone barely cut of his teens.

Colin Waller, again Manly's top scorer, is the third member of a trio any Sydney club would envy.

Holding on to their players could be Manly's biggest off-season worry.

Since none of their players have signed professional forms, they are free to go wherever they want without the club saying "boo".

Whether they will choose to seek "fortune" and possible fame on other shores or will cling loyally to the club they helped bring into First Division remains to be seen.

HAZY PLANS

Coach Denes Adriagni, who has since resigned, should not be blamed for not staving off relegation. The policy decisions were not his to make. His was the task to make do with the talent available, and under the circumstances even a Herrera probably couldn't have achieved much more.

At press time Manly's plans for 1969 were still hazy.

Amateur or semi-professional, that is the question they'll have to resolve before tackling next year's arduous battle for promotion once again in Second Division.

If they can retain this year's side intact, even on an amateur basis once more, they should make another bold bid for promotion.

— Lou Gautier

The side just went from bad to worse and ending the season on a horribly depressing note, went the last 10 rounds without recording a win, collecting a mere four points.

Why the absence of only two of last year's Grand Final winners, Isaac and McGolgan, should have made such a difference is another of the intriguing aspects of the St. George 1968 horror story.

On paper the team looked "good," what with Australian internationals Warren, Nuttal and Schaefer, under-23 international Morgan, Scottish international Haffey, seasoned English pro. Cliss, and NSW State representatives Stegbauer and Fernandez.

Quite an imposing line-up. On paper, that is!

Warren, as pointed out already, was a special case this year and can't be held too much responsible for his or the club's fate. As for Fernandez, he alternated the brilliant with the mediocre as always.

Why Saints persisted with some mediocre youngsters as more or less permanent members of their first team attack remains a mystery.

If it was the club's policy to inject some youth into their jaded team, it would

MEXICO 68

CANADIANS WALK BEFORE RUNNING

— By LOU GAUTIER —

MONTREAL. — An all too brief, 48-hour stop-over in Montreal, en route to Mexico, was a fascinating experience.

The capital of the province of Quebec may be the second biggest French-speaking city in the world, but there is little in its way of life and appearance to differentiate it from a typical US city.

One usually does not associate Canada with soccer, and Montreal, the stronghold of North American professional ice-hockey, even less.

However, despite the phenomenal popularity of the local "Canadiens" ice-hockey team — the world's best at soccer, as I discovered, is alive and kicking here, as it is all over this vast country.

Jean Guy Bedard, president of the Quebec Junior Association, is the man I have to thank for that.

Bedard, 38, is truly one of North America's soccer pioneers.

A French-Canadian engineering consultant, soccer runs in his blood.

Though he has never set foot outside North America, he is in the mould of the new breed of young soccer executives coming to the fore in the more advanced soccer countries of Europe and South America.

Bedard's spare time is entirely taken up by propagating the soccer gospel to an audience still largely made up of "unbelievers."

Despite soccer's growth, the Canadian newspapers give the game hardly any space at all.

"MISSIONARY"

I certainly saw nothing pertaining to soccer in any of the French or English language dailies during my stay here.

Bedard, who also finds time to prepare a thesis on the philosophy of sport, is a man with a mission.

As every soccer man worth his salt will tell you, you've got to start at the bottom of the tree. In other words get 'em when they're young and they'll be hooked on soccer for life.

That's exactly what Bedard is doing. Before even starting to think about "big time" soccer, he has devoted the last six years to implanting the game at grassroots level, and he's succeeded beyond anything we, in Australia, can even envisage.

What this one-man missionary expedition has achieved, in the face of tremendous odds, in so short a period is phenomenal and puts Australia, a far more developed, or so we like to think, soccer country, to shame.

Here are some of his achievements:

- A six-day coaching course for junior coaches from all over Canada in Montreal last June where six FIFA coaches, including Winterbottom and Boulogne, of France, lectured and demonstrated.

- The compulsory fielding of under 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and under-19 teams by all senior clubs in Quebec.

- A national Canadian inter-provincial competition, on a home-and-away

basis in all the above mentioned junior categories, spread over four months.

• A huge international junior tournament, lasting three weeks, in Montreal, in June 1969, to which 32 teams (12 of them from

overseas) have been invited. So far France, England, Scotland, Italy, West Germany, Greece and Israel have already accepted to send their national junior (under-20) teams. The tournament will be spon-

sored by eight Canadian and US firms who'll fly the teams out and put them up at their own expense.

• The introduction of soccer in 60 per cent of Quebec's schools, most of (Continued on page 8)

SWEAT AND TOIL MAY NET GOLD

— By LOU GAUTIER —

MEXICO CITY, Tuesday. — Mexico's Olympic squad was selected as early as in January and has had nine months of solid training, almost daily preparation.

The Olympic squad has been training together with the full national team, under the same coach, Ignacio Trelles, which is symptomatic of the way Mexican soccer authorities feel about the Olympic tournament.

Though they are doing their utmost to make the soccer segment of the Games a resounding success, they openly admit that for them the Olympic Games is only a dress rehearsal for the World Cup in 1970.

By conducting the Olympic tournament they hope to eliminate the inevitable difficulties and problems bound to crop up in any venture of that magnitude.

Not that the Mexicans are taking the Olympic tournament lightly. Far from it.

They are aware they can put up a fine performance, certainly win a medal, and have done everything to ensure a good showing for their team.

Thus their Olympic team has played all the same opponents as the full national side and, what's more, has done almost as well against Uruguay, Argentina, Russia and Chile.

Only against Brazil did the Olympic XI lose 0-2 while the "A" team won 2-1.

There's nothing surprising in this because the Mexicans don't hide the fact that every one of their Olympic players is in fact a professional, playing in First Division clubs.

The Colombians have the same set-up, even more so. They are simply fielding their World Cup team, nothing less! A team which includes five players from Millionarios Bogota — one of South America's wealthiest clubs!

Many Mexicans, such as Regueiro, Pulido, Alejandro Arevalo, Bustos and Morales, have played in their "A" team.

The Mexicans, as I found out to my surprise, don't deny there is no distinction in the status of their World Cup and Olympic players.

If they shied off fielding their World Cup team at the Olympics — something the Russians did, yet were eliminated by Czechoslovakia — it was only to save appearances.

Mexico's soccer boss, Guillermo Canedo, and the man who's organising the 1970 World Cup, says he didn't dare select players who played in England in 1966 because he was afraid the International Olympic Committee would have intervened, though FIFA no longer places such restrictions.

If the Mexicans have no qualms about fielding fully-fledged professionals it's because, they say, there is no longer any distinction between pros and amateurs.

Most countries they claim — and quite rightly, we may add — are only interested in fielding their strongest soccer team in any soccer competition.

With the exception of Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Brazil, and the Western Europeans, France and Spain, whose players are truly amateurs, every other team at the Olympics will be a full national side, with the strongest available players.

The Mexican Olympic Committee has raised no objections about the status of soccer players. In fact it is delighted that so many good players will take part and lift the standard of a tournament which would have been pitiful had only bona-fide amateurs participated.

HYPOCRISY

The abuses which abound in Olympic soccer, where less than 10 per cent of the players now in Mexico could be classified as "true Elite" amateurs leads most people to believe that soccer is on its last legs as an Olympic sport.

It is strongly tipped that soccer may make its exit as an Olympic sport in 1972 in Munich.

Everybody admits that Olympic soccer is the breeding ground for lies and hypocrisy.

Everybody cheats, but there are so many loopholes that every country can get away with it as they are only breaking any laws, only taking advantage of loose, vague rules and regulations.

The Olympic ideal couldn't be further from the minds of the thousands of Mexican fans who are preparing to invade the terraces at all venues.

Soccer is THE sport in Mexico, and crowds at soccer will easily be the biggest anywhere, including athletics.

The exciting prospects of the Mexican team has whipped up tremendous enthusiasm throughout the country, but this is only a forerunner of the fever which will sweep Mexico two years hence.

MEXICAN SQUAD

Mexico will rely on the following players in their quest for gold:

Goalies: Mendoza, Vargas, Rodriguez.

Defenders: Alejandro, Sanborn, Galindo, Perez, Sanchez.

Midfield: Regueiro, Munoz, Elias, Pereda, Villaporta.

Forwards: Bustos, Estrada, Victorino, Hernandez, Arevalo, Morales, Pulido, Desachi.

These players all come from the country's leading clubs, Mexaca, Leon, Oro, Toluca, Guadalajara, Universidad, America, etc., and would be just about as amateur as Italy's calcio stars!

They all play for fat bonuses in their clubs and are being groomed in the Olympic team for eventual stardom in Mexico's 1970 World Cup squad.

According to coach Trelles, who coaches both teams, 12 of the current Olympic squad have excellent prospects of playing for Mexico in the 1970 World Cup.

Trelles says he fears Hungary and Czechoslovakia most, but is confident that his team, playing at home, will win its first Olympic gold medal since Capilla won the highboard diving in Melbourne in 1956.

But Trelles, too, is the first to admit that the Olympic Games is nothing but an ideal testing ground for the World Cup — the Number one goal for every Mexican connected with soccer.

For the other sports, the Olympics will climax four years of intensive preparation, but for Mexican soccer they are but a stepping stone for the loftier heights of the World Cup — the only competition that really matters for them.

CZECHS ARE STUNNED TO BE HERE

MEXICO, Tues. — One week's camp — that was all the Czechoslovak Olympic soccer team could have before flying here last week.

Their coach, Vaclav Blazejovsky as well as their officials claim that "this is all we would have had anyway," regardless of the Soviet occupation and interruption in their preparations.

Of course, fully carrying out the Russian ukaze, the Czechs never mention the word "occupation" but refer to it as "recent events" and "unforeseen happenings."

Amazingly enough, the Czechs — enjoying the sympathy of the Mexican hosts to an unparalleled degree — never really expected to reach the Mexican finals.

When they came up against the Soviet Union — in soccer, not war — they all but conceded victory.

When, to everyone's surprise, they knocked out the Russians it was found that the Czech FA never even ordered a halt in the country's championship — which now goes on uninterrupted.

In order not to be unfair to any of the clubs, none was asked to give more than two players to the Olympic team.

This is why their present Olympic outfit bears hardly any resemblance to the one that won its preliminary fight.

Only two players of that team have survived to reach Mexico: Jarabek, Trnava's stopper and Strunc, Dukla Prague's tall right-winger.

Among the others I struck some old "acquaintances" from teams that toured Australia.

These are goalkeeper Kramersky, Sparta's well-built custodian, Linhart, the Slavia fullback who played one half in Adelaide against Juventus there and the tall Mutkovic, the brilliant young midfielder from Slovan Bratislava.

The other members of the squad are: Vecerek, (Ostrava), J. Bouska (Sparta), Bartovic (Trnava), Kral (Zilina), Krna (Inter), Stratil (Teplice), Holes (Lok, Kosice), Findes (Bohemians), Pajercin (Povaska Bystrica), Petras (Banska Bystrica), Jarakovska (Dukla) Herbst (Pilzen) and Boros (Lok, Kosice).

This, indeed, is only perhaps a "C" team for the Czechoslovaks.

Yet they are surprisingly optimistic about their chances.

"All the boys are talented, keen and in fairly good form," their coach told me yesterday.

"We played a few friendly matches in the USA before coming to Mexico and I'm sure the team will not be vastly inferior to any."

In Tokyo, four years ago, the Czechoslovaks won the silver medal, losing in the final to Hungary 2-1.

"The Bulgarians in our group are an excellent bunch of players," said Blazejovsky.

"Still, if we can get past them, we may even reach the final as we would have to play only Spain or perhaps Japan."

The Czech coach tips either Hungary or Mexico for the gold medals.

"As they probably meet in the semifinal, one will be eliminated then."

"The fanatical home crowd may give the Mexicans enough edge to squeeze through."

"But I know the Hungarians have sent a very strong team indeed and with players like Varga, Szucs and others loom the toughest to beat."

"It would be lovely if we did just that — in the final."

— L.G.

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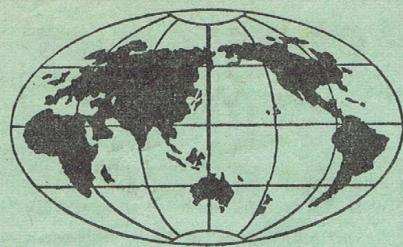
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ROUND THE WORLD

Portugal hails new star

The whole of Portugal is agog with excitement. "A new Eusebio has been born," is the catchcry of soccer fans throughout the soccer-mad nation. Avel (just plain Avel, no other name, just like Eusebio) is the object of this tremendous interest. Avel is also an African, but from Angola and not Mozambique like Eusebio. He's just been "discovered" by Benfica, and within a month has become a star forward in Benfica's first team and has scored eight goals in his first three matches. He looks and plays like the great Eusebio and every Portuguese is convinced he will become an even greater player than the fabulous "Black Panther" of Lisbon.

European Junior Championships

The final stages of the 1969 European Junior Championships will be held in East Germany in May. Seven countries have qualified automatically — hosts, East Germany, 1968 European champions, Czechoslovakia, Turkey, Rumania, Spain, Malta, Austria and Poland who were ballotted out of this year's series. The winners of the following elimination ties will join them in the finals: France v. Holland, Bulgaria v. Albania, England v. Belgium, Sweden v. West Germany, Scotland v. Norway, Portugal v. Italy, Hungary v. Yugoslavia and USSR v. Finland.

Grounds for envy

Sydney's soccer fans, whose amenities are easily the worst in the world, may well water at the mouth at the following figures. No less than \$5,500,000 is currently being spent by English clubs in renovating and modernising their grounds for better spectator comfort. In Yugoslavia seven stadiums have been remodelled this year, and even in France, where soccer is in a chronic, impoverished state, \$2 million went into ground improvements in 1968.

Yugoslavs "import" refs

As from this season, Yugoslav clubs are allowed to bring in foreign referees for their competition matches. Dinamo Zagreb was the first club to avail itself of the opportunity. They "imported" a Swiss referee for their match against Red Star Belgrade, were so satisfied that they now plan to have every home match refereed by Swiss, Austrian, Italian or Hungarian whistlers. Dinamo claim that Serbian referees discriminate against Croatian clubs.

French star finished?

One of France's greatest talents, 25-year-old Fleury Di Nallo, Lyon's centre-forward, may be lost for soccer. Di Nallo suffered a compound fracture of the right leg when viciously tackled — without the ball — in a match in Paris against Red Star. It looked so much like straight-out aggression that the French FA has started an enquiry and Di Nallo may sue his aggressor. Di Nallo's mishap is tragically similar to that of Just Fontaine, whose career was cut short at its peak almost seven years ago in similar circumstances.

1978 World Cup in Argentina

The 1978 World Cup will definitely be played in Argentina. This was confirmed by FIFA president, Sir Stanley Rous, after the recent Estudiantes — Manchester United Intercontinental Cup match in Buenos Aires. Sir Stanley delivered a letter to the Argentine FA president, Armando Ruiz, stating Argentina could go ahead with organising the 1978 series.

Despite rumors to the contrary, the South Vietnamese FA will organise another international tournament in Saigon next month. Australia, last year's winners, were invited to defend their trophy, but the ASF declined to send a team. It is, however, unlikely that many nations will compete this year because the Thai FA is staging its King's Cup at the same time in Bangkok.

• Helmut Haller, Juventus' new German signing, is on a crash diet. His coach, Heriberto Herrera, has decreed he is a stone and a half overweight. To lose weight, Haller has been compelled to reduce his daily intake to 1,800 calories instead of the normal 3,500 most soccer players need.

• The club doctor of Austria's Rapid Wien, is teaching the players' wives to cook their husbands proper meals. Rich foods are out and the wives are taught how to prepare nutritious, simple, high protein dishes.

• The top goalscorer in the Yugoslav First Division this season will be presented with a Winchester rifle as a symbol of sharp-shooting.

• Only the best will do for Sir Alf Ramsey, England's World Cup boss. During the Olympic Games he will be the guest of the British Ambassador.

• Another expatriate Yugoslav has returned home, the 14th this year. The latest prodigal son is Dusan Maravic, who joined OFK Belgrade after three years in France.

• Italian clubs will be liable to a \$300 fine if they broadcast a false line-up of their team before the kick-off to "outfox" the opposition. This has been a prevalent custom in Italy and has annoyed spectators for years.

• Eusebio copped a three-match suspension for being sent off two weeks ago against Setubal.

• Real Madrid again defeated Limassol of Cyprus 6-0 in their second leg European Cup first round tie. Both matches were played in Spain.

• Freedom — Russian style. The USSR FA has decided players could only seek transfers after a three-year spell with a particular club. Even then transfers will only be okayed if players can prove they are moving to another city for business purposes.

SCOREBOARD

UNDER-23 INTERNATIONAL: Wales v. England 1-3 (Wrexham).

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP, first round, 2nd leg: Fenerbahce (Turkey) v. Manchester City 2-1 (Fenerbahce qualify on 2-1 aggregate); Glasgow Celtic (Scotland) v. St. Etienne (France) 4-0 (Celtic qualify on 4-2 aggregate); AC Milan (Italy) 4-1 (Milan qualify on 5-3 aggregate); Ajax Amsterdam (Holland) v. FC Nuremberg (West Germany) 4-0 (Ajax qualify on 5-1 aggregate); Jeunesse Esch (Luxembourg) v. AEK Athens (Greece) 3-2 (AEK qualify on 5-3 aggregate); Rapid Vienna (Austria) v. Rosenborg Trondheim (Norway) 3-3 (Rapid qualify on 6-4 aggregate); Akademisk Boldklub Copenhagen (Denmark) v. FC Zurich (Switzerland) 1-2 (Akademisk qualify on 4-3 aggregate); Reipas Lahti (Finland) v. Floriana Valletta (Malta) 2-0 (Reipas qualify on 3-1 aggregate); Spartak Trnava (Czechoslovakia) v. Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 4-0 (Spartak qualify on 5-3 aggregate); Benfica (Portugal) v. Valur (Iceland) 8-1 (Benfica qualify on 8-1 aggregate); Glentoran (Northern Ireland) v. Anderlecht (Belgium) 2-2 (Anderlecht qualify on 5-2 aggregate).

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP, first round, 2nd leg: FC Kola (West Germany) 5-0; Girondins (France) 3-0 (Kola qualify on 4-2 aggregate); FC Turin (Italy) v. Partizan Tirana (Albania) 3-0 (Turin qualify on 3-2 aggregate); FC Norrkoping (Sweden) v. Crusaders (Northern Ireland) 4-1 (Norrkoping qualify on 6-3 aggregate); Lyn Oslo (Norway) v. Altay Izmir (Turkey) 4-1 (Lyn qualify on 5-4 aggregate); Apoel (Cyprus) v. Dunfermline (Scotland) 0-2 (Dunfermline qualify on 12-1 aggregate); Shamrock Rovers (Ireland) v. Randers Freja (Denmark) 1-2 (Randers qualify on 3-1 aggregate); Barcelona (Spain) v. FC Lugano (Switzerland) 3-0 (Barcelona qualify on 4-0 aggregate); West Bromwich Albion (England) v. FC Bruges (Belgium) 2-0 (West Bromwich qualify on away goals 3-3); FC Porto (Portugal) v. Cardiff City (Wales) 2-1 (Porto qualify on 4-3 aggregate); FK Bor (Yugoslavia) v. Slovan Bratislava (Czechoslovakia) 2-0 (Slovan qualify on 3-2 aggregate).

FAIR CITIES' CUP: Aberdeen (Scotland) v. Slavia Sofia (Bulgaria) 2-0 (Aberdeen qualify on 2-0 aggregate); FC Valencia (Spain) v. Sporting Lisbon (Portugal) 4-1 (Sporting qualify on 5-4 aggregate); Basel (Switzerland) v. Bologna

(Italy) 1-2 (Bologna qualify on 6-2 aggregate); Real Zaragoza (Spain) v. Trakia Plovdiv (Bulgaria) 2-0 (Real Zaragoza qualify on away goals 3-3); Waregem (Belgium) v. Atletico Madrid (Spain) 1-0 (Waregem qualify on away goals 2-2); Olympique Nice (France) v. Hansa Rostock (East Germany) 2-1 (Rostock qualify on 4-2 aggregate); Arg Pitesti (Romania) v. Leixoes Oporto (Portugal) 0-0 (Arg Pitesti qualify on away goal 1-1); Hibernian (Scotland) v. Ljubljana (Yugoslavia) 2-1 (Hibernian qualify on 5-1 aggregate); Slavia Prague (Czechoslovakia) v. Wiener SK (Austria) 5-0 (Slavia qualify on 5-1 aggregate); Vojvodina (Yugoslavia) v. Glasgow Rangers (Scotland) 1-0 (Rangers qualify on 2-1 aggregate).

FRANCE: Red Star v. Basile 1-1; St. Etienne v. Valenciennes 4-0; Ajaccio v. Marseille 1-1; Nantes v. Nice 0-0; Bordeaux v. Strasbourg 3-0; Sochaux v. Rennes 1-1; Metz v. Lyon 1-1; Monaco v. Nimes 0-0; Sedan v. Rouen 1-1.

HOLLAND: DOS v. NEC 0-0; Ajax v. Volendam 2-0; FSC v. Holland Sport 0-0;

Sparta v. Telstar 2-0; NAC v. Twente 0-0; Go Ahead v. Feyenoord 3-1; GVAV v. MVV 3-0; ADO v. DWS 2-0; AZ 67 v. PSV 2-0.

ITALY: Fiorentina v. Atlanta 2-1; Inter Milan v. Napoli 1-1; Juventus v. Palermo 0-0; Vicenza v. Bologna 1-0; Pisa v. AS Roma 1-2; Sampdoria v. Torino 1-1; Varrese v. Cagliari 1-6; AC Milan v. Verona 3-1.

PORUGAL: Benfica v. Leixoes 4-0; CUF v. Sporting 1-0; Belenenses v. Sanjoanense 0-0; Academica v. Atletico 4-2; Braga v. Setubal 1-0; Porto v. Varzim 2-0; Tomar v. Guimaraes 3-1.

SPAIN: Valencia v. Elche 1-0; Atletico Bilbao v. Real Madrid 0-1; Madrid 0-1; Atletico Madrid v. Granada 1-0; Cordoba v. Espanol 5-0; Real Sociedad v. Real Zaragoza 2-1; Sabadell v. Malaga 2-1; Barcelona v. Pontevedra 1-0; Las Palmas v. Coruna 2-1.

SWITZERLAND: FC Basel v. Young Boys 2-1 Bellinzona v. St. Gallen 0-1; Biel v. Servette Geneva 2-2; Chaudron-Fonds v. Lucerne 6-2; Grasshoppers v. Sion 2-1; Lausanne v. Lugano 2-0; Winterthur v. FC Zurich 2-1.

YUGOSLAVIA: Red Star v. Olimpija 6-0; Velez v. Belgrade 2-1; Maribor v. Partizan 4-1; Vardar v. Bor 2-1; Sarajevo v. Radnicki 0-0; Rijeka v. Zagreb 0-1; Dinamo v. Proleter 3-2; Celik v. Hajduk 3-3; Vojvodina v. Zeljeznica 1-0.

WORLD CUP TIES KICK OFF SOON

Australia is not the only country still in the dark about its World Cup elimination match dates.

So far only four groups — all European — have finalised all their qualifying match dates. These are the official European match dates as they stand now:

GROUP I

Portugal-Rumania	27-10-68
Rumania-Switzerland	23-11-68
Greece-Portugal	11-12-68
Portugal-Switzerland	16-4-69
Greece-Rumania	16-4-69
Portugal-Greece	4-5-69
Switzerland-Rumania	14-5-69
Rumania-Portugal	12-10-69
Greece-Switzerland	15-10-69
Switzerland-Portugal	2-11-69
Rumania-Greece	16-11-69

GROUP II

Czechoslovakia-Denmark	20-10-68
Hungary-Eire	6-11-68
Eire-Denmark	1-12-68
Eire-Czechoslovakia	4-5-69
Hungary-Czechoslovakia	25-5-69
Denmark-Eire	29-5-69
Eire-Hungary	8-6-69
Denmark-Hungary	15-6-69
Czechoslovakia-Hungary	14-9-69
Czechoslovakia-Eire	7-10-69
Hungary-Denmark	22-10-69

GROUP III

Wales-Italy	22-10-68
Italy-Wales	4-11-69

GROUP IV

No dates yet.

GROUP V

France-Norway	6-11-68
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GROUP VI

Yugoslavia-Spain	27-10-68
Belgium-Yugoslavia	10-11-68
Spain-Belgium	11-12-68
Belgium-Spain	26-2-69
Spain-Yugoslavia	30-4-69
Finland-Yugoslavia	4-6-69
Finland-Spain	25-6-69
Spain-Finland	15-10-69
Yugoslavia-Belgium	19-10-69

GROUP VII

Austria-W. Germany	13-10-68
Scotland-W. Germany	16-4-69
Cyrus-Austria	19-4-69
W. Germany-Scotland	8-10-69

GROUP VIII

Luxembourg-Holland	26-3-69
Poland-Luxembourg	20-4-69
Bulgaria-Luxembourg	23-4-69
Holland-Poland	7-5-69
Bulgaria-Poland	15-6-69
Poland-Holland	7-9-69
Luxembourg-Poland	12-10-69
Poland-Bulgaria	2-11-69

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MELBOURNE PAGE...

EDITED BY BOB LOW

HEADACHE FOR HELLAS BY HANDFUL OF LOUTS

In the past two years a certain section of South Melbourne Hellas fans have gained notoriety for themselves and at the same time placed the future of their club in jeopardy by running wild at a couple of the club's matches.

The first occasion was during the infamous Australia Cup tie at Olympic Park when all hell broke loose with an invasion of the field and a cry went up for the referee's blood in the match against Hakoah (Sydney).

Hellas were down 3-0 at the time, the game was abandoned after 71 minutes and the tie was awarded to the Sydney side.

The South Melbourne Hellas club were heavily fined and placed on a substantial bond which was reduced following an appeal to the Australian Federation.

More recently and towards the end of the State League season, a section of the Hellas support once again saw fit to take the

law into their own hands, bring the club into further disrepute with another field invasion and wild disturbance at the end of the match with Melbourne.

Once again the referee was the main target for the louts.

Melbourne defeated Hellas in this game.

The latest episode has produced a long drawn out wrangle over the sentence imposed on the club.

Originally they were fined \$100, placed on a \$100 bond and ordered to have extra police at both home and away games.

Due to some technicality over the charges, the Appeal Board ordered the case to be reheard.

The Investigation and Disciplinary Committee up-

held their initial findings and again Hellas appealed.

Now, except for halving the bond, the Appeals Board have upheld the Disciplinary Committee's decisions and of course

Hellas must have to do the time since they played their Dockerty Cup final game with Croatia last Sunday.

The club is and must be held responsible for the behaviour of their fans.

This is an accepted fact

in all overseas countries and a law written into the constitution of Football As-

sociations.

It's not so long ago when a well known English league side had their ground closed for a short period following rioting by some of their fans.

The Hellas crowds have not yet reached such proportions that make it impossible for the management to recognise and shut down some of the troublemakers.

And the VSF should order the club to post warning bills at their ground in Greek.

To those so called "fans" who seem determined by their actions to bring this great club to its knees, I have only one suggestion:

Stay away from Hellas games, in fact stay away from soccer.

However, with two major disturbances in two years,

both the South Melbourne Hellas management and the section of support which has caused them so much trouble must get to grips with reality.

The club is and must be held responsible for the behaviour of their fans.

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in all overseas countries and a law written into the constitution of Football As-

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To those so called "fans" who seem determined by their actions to bring this great club to its knees, I have only one suggestion:

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Croatia v. SM-Hellas 1-1 (after extra time)

Drawn Final in mudbath

It was mudbath soccer through the entire 120 minutes of the 1968 Dockerty Cup Final.

The heavens opened up soon after the match began and the badly worn playing surface at Olympic Park was soon turned into a series of miniature lakes and a mudbath.

Croatia took the initiative almost from the start, and were ahead after 8 minutes when Jim McKay converted a corner taken by Billy Vojtek.

For the rest of the first half Croatia were well in command, moving better as a team, winning most of the tackles against a Hellas which was almost completely out of touch and failed to master the elements.

With both sides unchanged on resumption, Croatia looked likely to increase their lead until half an hour from the end when they fell back and rested on their laurels and adopted the negative style of Hellas of the first half.

By strange twist of coincidence, Hellas opened up and played the profitable game. Croatia had employed earlier and had Croatia with their backs to the wall for long sessions.

They deservedly equalised in the 85th minute when Frank Micic slipped a good ball to winger Jim Pyrgolis.

From the winger's centre Gorrie headed home a magnificent equaliser.

For the few minutes remaining Hellas launched several attacks but at the end the teams were still locked together and changed round for extra time.

For most of the extra time Hellas looked the more likelier of the pair to win.

Details:
Croatia: Kovacek; D. McKay, Gunn; McArthur, Bot, Rau; Vojtek, Davies, McIntyre, J. McKay, McMeehan.

SM-Hellas: Dandrikis, Kelly, Mantrakes; Micic, Bedford, Deeming; Pyrgolis, Kamboropolous, Ackerley, Gorrie, Damaniakos.

Scorers: J. McKay for Croatia; Gorrie for Hellas.

Referee: G. Pedlar.

Crowd: 7,719.

STARS GALORE IN HAKOAH SIDE

Melbourne Hakoah have quite a few outstanding players in their team Sydney fans will be keen to see.

Included in their Sydney-bound team is Australia's best fullback George Keith, former Eire international John O'Neill and Australian centre-half Dick Van Alphen.

The Hakoah players:

• Sandy Henderson (goalkeeper), Scottish. Undoubtedly the best in the State League. Playing many seasons in the Scottish Second Division for Brechin City, Forfar Athletic and Cowdenbeath.

• George Keith (right-back), Scottish. Australian international who was at one time on the books of Arsenal. Played with Morton and Third Lanark.

• John O'Neill (left-back), Irish. Was with Drumcondra, Preston North End and Barrow. Represented Eire in international soccer.

• Hugh Murney (right-half), Scottish. Played with several senior clubs in Scotland including Queen of the South. Long serving player with Hakoah.

• Dick Van Alphen (centre-half), Dutch. Played in top class soccer in Holland and after several years with Wilhelmina was transferred to Hakoah. Australian international.

• Alan Stenhouse (right-half), Scottish. Formerly played for Motherwell and Cowdenbeath. Longest serving first team regular with Hakoah.

• Keith Fry (right-wing), Welsh. Several years

with Newport before transferring to Notts County where he played regularly with Tony Hateley, Britain's most expensive player.

• Jim Armstrong (inside-forward), Scottish. Product of Port Glasgow Juniors. Leading scorer for Hakoah for the past two seasons.

• Gordon Cameron (centre-forward), Scottish. Arrived here only a few months back. Played in English non-league soccer.

• Teddy Smith (inside-forward), Australian. Has the longest service of any in State League soccer. Started off with Moreland

Coach: Bill Walsh, Irish, former Manchester City and Grimsby Town player who has a number of full international caps for Ireland. Spent seven years in New Zealand coaching before coming to Footscray JUST.

Was Melbourne's coach in 1967 when they won the State League title in 1967 and Australia Cup.

Under-18 Cup Final: Footscray JUST 3 v. Polonia 1 (after extra-time). Under-16 Cup Final: Arden 3 v. George Cross 1. Under-14 Cup Final: Altona 2 v. Kelor City 1.

The game will be preceded by a junior curtain-raiser.

Neither team is expected to show any great changes from last week, but it could be that both will replace their left wingers, Damaiakos (Hellas) and McMeekan (Croatia).

The replay upsets arrangements which had been made with Pan Hellenic (Sydney) to play South Melbourne Hellas at Middle Park on Sunday when the teams would have had Melbourne to themselves.

And as the return Hakoah v. Prague match is scheduled for Middle Park, Melbourne on Sunday, October 20, new arrangements will have to be made for the South Melbourne Hellas v. Pan Hellenic friendly.

CUP REPLAY ON SUNDAY

The Dockerty Cup Final replay between Croatia and South Melbourne Hellas will take place at Olympic Park this Sunday with a 3 p.m. kick off.

The game will be preceded by a junior curtain-raiser.

Neither team is expected to show any great changes from last week, but it could be that both will replace their left wingers, Damaiakos (Hellas) and McMeekan (Croatia).

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COOK'S GRAND TOUR OF CLUBS

A couple of months ago Slavia, in desperate straits for a keeper, flew Wally Lowrie, ex-Stirling Albion, to Melbourne and gave him considerable assistance in settling down.

Lowrie arrived in time to play the last four games for the club but now has shocked the Slavia officials by informing them of his decision to return to Scotland. * * *

Jimmy Rooney, the former Peterborough and Montrouge inside-forward who joined Lions at the start of this season and recently won the Travelodge Player Award, has also been named as the winner of the 1968 Argus Medal. * * *

Tommy Anderson, the recently appointed player-coach of South Coast United was a visitor to Melbourne last weekend and took in the Dockerty Cup Final. George Cross, looking for a coach, discussed with Anderson a possible transfer of Ron McGarry and providing terms could be arranged between South Coast and George Cross and McGarry is interested, then a deal could be in the offing. Tommy is also interested in a George Cross player but would not officially name the man. However, it seems likely the player is Nick McCullum, the George Cross centre. * * *

After missing most of this season through employment difficulties, Joe McGrain, the Lions fullback is certain to be available next year and in fact will be challenging for a place in their Ampol Cup side. Last year McGrain won second prize in Tatts. * * *

The Appeals Board of the Victorian Soccer Federation have ordered a re-hearing of the case in which 11 Shepparton-Macedonia players and one official of the club were given life sentences by the Goulburn Murray League for allegedly assaulting Melbourne referee, Harold Thorn during the match with Shepparton City. * * *

At the recent Hellas appeal, one member of the Appeals Board was changed from the one which had considered the first appeal by Hellas.

For some strange reason Fred Lang was replaced by Bill Thomas.

Thomas was president of the defunct VASFA while Lang was chairman of the State League Disciplinary Committee in the same association.

Where to buy Soccer World in Melbourne CITY

Collins Book Stores, City News Kiosk, Corner Elizabeth and Flinders Streets. Flinders Street Railway Station.

Falconer Newsagent, Collins Street (near Spencer Street). Newsstand, corner Bourke and Spencer Streets.

Newsagent, Russell Street (near Lonsdale Street).

FOOTSCRAY La Scala Book Kiosk, 29 Leeds Street.

BRUNSWICK Richards Newsagency, 398 Sydney Road.

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ST. KILDA Village Bell Newsagency, 161 Acland Street.

Cosmos Book Shop, 133 Acland Street.

Szelig Newsagent, corner Grey and Barkley Streets. St. Kilda Railway Station.

Second Division reviewed

LANE COVE MAY SINK BACK INTO OBLIVION

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

After only two seasons in Second Division football, Lane Cove United will return next year to the First Division, Inter Suburban competition, away from the pressures and limelight of big soccer.

However, United now intends to make a final effort to stay in this Division by applying to the Federation to forego the relegation for this year on the ground that the club has facilities and is more equipped and organised than some others.

Although there is very little doubt about its capabilities in providing a ground, amenities and administration to run a Second Division Club, the Federation is not likely to view favorably the club's application, thus establishing a precedent which generally could be unfair or even harmful to clubs aspiring to play in this higher sphere of soccer.

There is one venue open for Lane Cove to retain their Second Division status for next year and that is to come to some satisfactory arrangement with the Amateur Premiers Artarmon and amalgamate which would not only benefit both clubs but would generally improve the soccer backing in the district.

Rumors to this effect have been ripe, even though both sides deny it officially, but more consideration must be given to this solu-

tion as both clubs could benefit from this union.

Lane Cove battled these two past seasons in Second Division with a good defense but a non-existent attack which could not be reinforced for lack of funds to "buy" good players.

It fostered the district's players and gave them every chance to make good but despite these efforts it could not overcome the inevitable.

United has a good record of administration and could provide reasonable facilities at Portery Green — an enclosed ground and amenities hard-earned after long years of consistent strategy with the local Council.

Artarmon, on the other hand, which incidentally is located half a mile down the Pacific Highway, has no enclosed ground in the district and the prospects of acquiring one are almost negligible.

They won this year's premiership by one point from Wentworthville which indicates that the side would need strengthening to make any impression in the higher standard of soccer next season.

Lane Cove United, al-

though it was never disgraced in defeat, could only win three matches in a season — against Granville, Corinthians and Hornsby — and snatched a point from a draw.

The club lost its coach Jock Aird in the middle of August when he left for his

native Scotland for a holiday and was immediately replaced by Bill Bell.

If it can't arrange a settlement with Artarmon, the club, being amateurs, would almost certainly lose some of their present players, prolonging their stay in the amateur ranks.

GO-SLOW WITH ASF SUGGESTED

Last week's special NSW Council meeting produced some interesting quotes.

Here is a bouquet from President JIM BAYUTTI:

"I've sent that cable off to FIFA privately hoping that Sir Stanley Rous will come out here to see what's going on and who's right . . ."

"We are not interested in breakaways but we can't be humiliated either and thrown around the table like little boys . . ."

"I know of no suggestion for a National League . . ."

"We don't want to be told by the ASF to become just a branch of that organisation . . ."

"It's an insult to offer \$500 a match to Greece when we paid \$4,000 a match to Japan . . ."

Vice-president FRANK PARSON:

"We have to mount a crash campaign to build up NSW's strength."

"The more effort we put into the ASF, the more umbrage they take."

"We should stay with the ASF Council as delegates, give them advice if we can, stay on as Executive members, but our efforts in their subcommittees must be curtailed . . ."

"Newcastle's withdrawal from the Sydney match was a bitter pill; they have fallen short of the ethical

standards of a Federation."

"I am sorry I'm a Novocastrian myself. They used the match as a weapon to force their will on us."

"It was a different story last year when Newcastle needed Sydney teams to help raise funds for their stadiums. We obliged on just one letter from them . . ."

"The remedy is . . . we become more passive in the ASF than in the past."

"If we keep going with the ASF as before, we'll soon have no funds."

"We should allow things to drift with the ASF, let them run the show for a while."

"We will accept their decisions but take no part in them . . ."

NSW's delegate to the ASF SAM FISZMAN:

"Earlier this year I couldn't get the Australia Cup subcommittee to meet for three long months because its president, Vic Turing, was not available . . ."

"We should have gone to Mexico with our ASF delegation."

"Sir William Walkley himself admitted to us here in that room that Vic Turing could not achieve the results in Mexico we seek . . ."

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ADELAIDE NEWS

Hectic week for S.A. Clubs

— From ALLAN CRISP —

South Australian soccer has experienced a week of sensations, climaxed by the abandonment of the 1969 Australia Cup elimination match between WA Hellas and USC Lion.

The first shock came with the resignation of Beograd-Woodville coach, Peter Jaksa.

Jaksa had inspired the predominantly youthful Beograd club with his modern coaching methods and they had been a top-four threat until injuries halted their run.

Beograd finished the league season in fifth position — an undeniably successful re-entry into First Division.

There had been no hint of a rift until Jaksa announced his resignation.

He said the move had been prompted partly for health and partly for personal reasons.

Jaksa revealed, however, that changes in the club's management had influenced his decision.

He said that he had received offers from clubs to coach and that he had no intention of again playing with WA Hellas.

Despite this statement he attended a training session with his former club.

Juventus chairman, Guido Voivodich sprang the next surprise when he announced that his club had lifted their suspension on Nilo Rusalen.

"He has apologised to the club committee and to coach, Mario Corti and the way is now clear for him to play again," said Voivodich.

Immediately the SA selectors heard the news, they added Rusalen to the SA team to play WA in Perth on October 20.

Rusalen, who captained SA against Cardiff City was included along with Romanowicz (Polonia), Fedyczyn (Lion), Murray, B. Nyskohus (Lion), Kouzappa (Polonia), Wetton (Australia), Pantelis, Birch, Bachelor (Hellas), M. Marusic (Beograd), Perin (Juventus) H. Kolecki (Pol-

onia). Reserves: Zurawski (Polonia), Farkas, Pike (Budapest).

However, Nick Pantelis (Hellas) was sent off during last Saturday's Australia Cup debacle against Lion and his State place is in doubt until he faces the disciplinary committee.

The Hellas v. Lion game was abandoned with 20 minutes left to play after Pantelis had been ordered off for disputing a decision given by referee, Dennis Grant.

Grant had disallowed a goal scored by Pantelis with Hellas leading 3-1.

Pantelis refused to leave the field and was being escorted off by his captain, Tom Forde, when a spectator felled Grant with a stone.

Other spectators rounded on Haddington and several Lion players jumped the fence to rescue their teammate.

Grant was treated by trainers of both teams and he then attempted to restore order.

The stone, about the size of a walnut, struck Grant on his temple.

Acting on the advice of a special games committee man, he eventually abandoned the game.

A technical high school teacher at Port Pirie, Grant recovered to drive home in his own car.

At press time the SA Federation executive had convened a meeting to decide what action to take.

Federation president, Mario Bailetti, said, "We deplore incidents of this type which are begun by irresponsible spectators."

"We will take what action we deem necessary to prevent a recurrence."

If the lead of 1959 is followed, the game will be replayed behind closed gates.

SYDNEY PROGRAM THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

AUSTRALIA CUP SEMIFINAL

Prague v. Hakoah (Vic.) — Wentworth Pk., 3 p.m.



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